

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 20-41 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 23, 24, 27, 33, 34, 37 and 40 are amended for clarity purposes only in order to address the objections and rejections to these claims set forth in the Office Action.

In addition, the specification is amended so as to update the status of the continuity data.

Finally, attached hereto is a new Declaration executed by the inventors. The new Declaration does not include non-initialed and/or non-dated alterations, which is the source of the objection set forth on page 2 of the Office Action.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all the claims are patentable and that the entire application is in condition for allowance.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable to place the application in better condition for allowance, she is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By:

  
Paul T. Bowen  
Reg. No. 38,009

PTB:jck  
Attachment:  
Declaration

901 North Glebe Road, 11th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22203-1808  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100